

Message Text

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ACTION TRSE-00

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 EA-10 ISO-00 NEA-10 IO-13 AID-05

CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 FRB-03 INR-10 NSAE-00

ICA-11 XMB-02 OPIC-03 SP-02 LAB-04 SIL-01 OMB-01

L-03 H-01 NSC-05 SS-15 STR-07 CEA-01 PA-01 /129 W

-----044576 171118Z /17

R 170815Z APR 78

FM AMEMBASSY KUALA LUMPUR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3496

INFO AMEMBASSY MANILA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY VIENNA

C O N F I D E N T I A L KUALA LUMPUR 3105

E. O. 11652: X-GDS-1

TAGS: EGEN, EFIN, ADB, MY

SUBJ: ADB MEETING

REF: STATE 70314 (NOTAL)

1. MALAYSIAN PRESS EDITIONS OF APRIL 17 CARRY LEAD ARTICLES BASED ON A FINANCE MINISTRY STATEMENT THAT BILATERAL MEETING BETWEEN SECRETARY BLUMENTHAL AND MINISTER OF FINANCE RAZALEIGH HAS BEEN ARRANGED TO TAKE PLACE IN VIENNA ON APRIL 24. ARTICLES NOTE THAT MEETINGS ARE TAKING PLACE AT US INITIATIVE. FINANCE MINISTRY STATEMENT QUOTED AS STATING THAT TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED INCLUDE PRESENT INTERNATIONAL ECONOMIC DIFFICULTIES AND THE DECLINING VALUE OF THE US DOLLAR. THE STATEMENT ADDS THAT TENGKU RAZALEIGH IS PLANNING TO RAISE "ECONOMIC AND TRADE ISSUES RELATING TO THE NORTH-SOUTH DIALOGUE AND MALAYSIAN-US RELATIONS IN THE FIELDS OF ECONOMICS, TRADE, INVESTMENT AND FINANCE."

2. STATEMENT ALSO NOTED THAT TENGKU RAZALEIGH WILL BE HAVING A BREAKFAST MEETING WITH JAPANESE FINANCE MINISTER TATSUO MURAVAMA ON APRIL 25. TOPICS TO BE DISCUSSED AT THAT MEETING REPORTEDLY WILL
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INCLUDE EEC-JAPANESE TALKS AND THE CURRENT ECONOMIC AND FINANCIAL ISSUES RELATING TO THE PROPOSED JULY SUMMIT MEETING OF THE INDUSTRIAL COUNTRIES TO BE HELD IN BONN.

3. COMMENT: RELEASE OF STATEMENT PROBABLY REFLECTS GOM FINANCE MINISTER RAZALEIGH'S DESIRE TO GENERATE FAVORABLE PUBLICITY. RAZALEIGH AND PARTY HAVE DEPARTED MALAYSIA FOR PARIS WHERE THEY ARE

ATTENDING THE IBRD/IMF JOINT COMMITTEE MEETING. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS
THAT ONCE DECISION AS TO WHETHER MEETING WILL TAKE PLACE, US SIDE
CONTACT RAMON NAVARATNUM, DIRECTOR OF THE ECONOMIC DIVISION,
MINISTRY OF FINANCE, WHO IS TRAVELING WITH RAZALEIGH'S PARTY AND
COORDINATE WITH HIM DETAILS RELATING TO TIME AND VENUE. PLEASE KEEP
US INFORMED.
MILLER

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NNN

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